

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 9-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Isaac. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 9 and 15 have been amended to specify that “the end section of the connection pin has a shape bent back in an upward direction, the bent back end section of the connection pin electrically contacts an electrical contact of the contact device.” By configuring the connection pins to bend back in an upward direction, the blunt end of the connection pin does not come into direct contact with the contact device. Accordingly, a safe contact can be made with the contact device.

In Isaac, the bent back end section of the connection pin does not make electrical contact with contact block 54. Instead, in Isaac the non-bent portion of flexible contact 44 makes contact with the contact block 54. Accordingly, Isaac does not describe or suggest a socket or adapter – device with the claimed configuration.

For the foregoing reasons, the rejection of claims 1, 2, 6 and 9-15 as being anticipated by Isaac should be withdrawn.

Claims 3 and 5 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Isaac in view of Ptiff. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 3 and 5 depend from claim 1. As explained above with respect to claim 1, Isaac does not describe or suggest a connection pin wherein the end section of the connection pin has a shape bent back in an upward direction, and wherein this bent back end section of the connection pin electrically contacts an electrical contact of the contact device. In addition, Ptiff fails to even disclose a connection pin that has end section bent back in an upward direction. Accordingly, neither Ptiff nor Isaac describe or suggest a connection pin with the claimed configuration.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to

withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing Attorney Docket No. 543822003100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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